

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new paragraph on Page 1, above line 1:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Applicant claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of German Application No. 102 37 366.3 filed August 13, 2002. Applicant also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §365 of PCT/EP2003/008905 filed August 11, 2003. The international application under PCT article 21(2) was not published in English.--

On Page 2, before the first full paragraph, please insert the following new paragraphs:

--U.S Patent 5,422,385 discloses an isocyanate-based elastomer that contains 30 to 90 wt% of a filler material having a specific gravity of less than 2. The method for manufacturing this elastomer is characterized essentially in that a first mixture and a second mixture are produced, wherein the first mixture contains a catalyst and a filler material which is wetted by the catalyst, while the second mixture contains an isocyanate and an active, hydrogen-containing composition. The two mixtures

are combined with each other to provide a reaction mixture that ultimately reacts to produce the isocyanate-based elastomer.

The object of the present invention is to create a sound-insulating material of the type mentioned in the beginning, in particular for automobiles, which has good soundproofing action with a relatively low weight. Further, an inexpensive method for the manufacture of such a material is to be specified.

With regard to material the object is solved by a material with the characteristics identified in Claim 1. The material is manufactured, in accordance with the invention, from thermoplastic rubber particles, which are mixed with PUR plastic, wherein the rubber forms a matrix, in which a plurality of gas filled hollow bodies are embedded.--

On Page 2, please delete the first and second full paragraphs.

On Page 8, please replace the last full paragraph with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In figure 2 a cross-section of a section of extruded material 1 is shown schematically. The thermoplastic EPDM rubber 12 and the PUR plastic 13 are mixed therein with each other essentially homogeneously, wherein the rubber 12 forms a matrix, in which a plurality of expanded, elastic microhollow bodies 14 is embedded. In accordance with the invention, the material 1 therefore consists of foamed heavy layer material that has predominantly closed cells. The density is in the range of 0.2 to 1.5 ~~kg/cm³~~ kg/dm³ or g/cm³. Preferably, the density of material 1 is less than 1.0 ~~kg/cm³~~ kg/dm³ or g/cm³, and especially preferred less than 0.5 ~~kg/cm³~~ kg/dm³ or g/cm³. Conventional unfoamed heavy layer material on the other hand usually has a density of ~~bout~~ about 1.8 ~~kg/cm³~~ kg/dm³ or g/cm³.--